



Elwood College

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Information 2018

Introduction

The Bring Your Own Device “BYOD” programme at Elwood College offers huge potential benefits for teaching and learning. It offers extended opportunities for students and teachers to contribute to the world community on the web.

Over recent years, Elwood College has sought to lower the cost of education by reducing the number of text books needed at school and replacing them with netbooks that were pre-loaded with software for educational use. BYOD takes this a step further by allowing students to bring devices that they already have at home.

To achieve this and maintain a high standard of teaching with technology we will be leveraging online and web based content to provide better “access anywhere” educational opportunities.

Elwood College has an important role in preparing students for these 'online communities', even though students may not access some online sites at school (e.g. Facebook).

As students’ learning includes more Internet activity, it is crucial to make sure everyone understands what they should and should not be doing online.

Behaving safely online means:

- Protecting their own privacy and personal information ‘Cyber Safety’ (we used to call it 'stranger danger)
- Selecting appropriate spaces to work and contribute
- Protecting the privacy of others (this can be sharing personal information or images)
- Being proactive in letting someone know if something is 'not quite right' – at home this would be a parent or guardian, at school a teacher.

These principles of safety and responsibility are not specific for the web but certainly apply to the use of internet at school. Just as in the real world, the virtual world of the internet involves some risks.

Elwood College has developed proactive strategies that help to minimise these risks to our students.

BYOD Program

As part of the BYOD program students will have access to the school's network and are subject to the Acceptable Use Agreement.

Students may bring any device that meets the following criteria:

These are a minimum specifications, anything that meets or exceeds these requirements will be acceptable.

- Windows or Apple Mac OSX devices are **strongly recommended**
- All devices **must have a minimum** of Windows 8.1 for any PC device, IOS 9 for any iPad and 10.9 for any MAC device, Android 6.0 for any Android Tablet (Ipad and tablets, while useable, are not recommended)
- Screen size: Minimum 9.7 inch screen size 11 inch or above is **highly recommended.**
- Must have a keyboard (Blue tooth key boards acceptable)
- Devices must be no older than **3 years old**
- Battery life must be able to support the requirements of 300 minutes (5 hours) of classes
- All devices must have up to date antivirus protection (Apple devices included)

Recommendations when considering a device for school.

Screen size - larger screen sizes can be beneficial when looking at a device for many hours a day also consider screen resolution as higher resolutions are easier to read and easier on the eyes.

Touch Screens – with many website and applications becoming more touch friendly and interactive a touch screen would help a device scale well into potential future applications.

Portability – As these devices will be carried in the bags of growing children, please pay attention to the weight and size of a device. While they all feel manageable, to begin with, some heavier devices can be a burden to students by the end of the school day.

Keyboards - smaller keyboards are often harder to type on for longer periods, consider something that will be comfortable for longer periods.

Battery Life – When purchasing pay attention to the battery life of the device and consider how much your child uses their computer, devices should last the whole school day.

Insurance – Devices will be carried to and from school and between classes so there is always potential for accidental damage to occur, consider purchasing accidental damage insurance when you purchase your device to make sure you are covered if an accident happens.

Extended Warranty – If you intend to only purchase a device every 3 – 4 years then you should consider paying a little extra for an extended warranty. This will ensure the device will last the distance.

Still Unsure? Elwood College recommends the following specifications

Recommended specifications:	Some examples of devices are:
Processor:	Intel Core I3 or better Lenovo Yoga 520, 720 or 910
Memory (RAM):	4Gb or above Acer Travelmate B117 or Switch Alpha 12
Hard disk drive:	128Gb SSD or above Microsoft Surface Pro 4
Screen size:	11" to 15.6" Apple Macbook
Battery life:	Minimum 5 hours

Elwood College is not responsible for any damage sustained to any BYOD device on school premises. Students and parents are fully responsible for all warranty, insurance and maintenance costs. All hardware issues should be referred back to the point of purchase.